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Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

TEMP Max 27 | Min 20 | Humidity 97% Generally cloudy sky Sensex 57,919 | Nifty 17,185 | Gold 50,280 | Silver 55,290 | Dollar 82.42 | Euro 80.12 | GBP 92.07

Smart City road infra in central business district is crumbling, troubling citizens, traders, amid complete absence of grievance redressal

STEP LIGHTLY

Integrated Command and Control Centre yet to begin operations

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Somewhere in the city, Smart City work (always) in progress (File photo)

Dark streets, gaping holes in pavements and uncleared garbage make up haphazardly done stretches of multiple Smart City roads in Bengaluru that are putting commuters as well as traders in peril.

With multiple civic issues plaguing the central business district roads laid down by the Bengaluru Smart City Limited (BSCL), users complained there is no channel for redressal of their woes.

The first on the list is the 500-m stretch of Dispensary Road in the Commercial Street area. The road between Dispensary Circle and Kamaraj Road Junction plunges into darkness every evening in absence of streetlights. According to the traders in the area, none of the streetlights on the stretch have been working for over two weeks.

"The issue of dysfunctional streetlights began almost a month ago. Initially, the lights on one side of the stretch stopped working. However, not even a single light works now. Around 500 m of the stretch falls into total darkness every night; the lights from the shops are a saving grace. It is depressing for a shopper to enter this stretch," said Gaurav Ritis, a trader along Commercial Street.

The streetlights were put up on the stretch by BSCL a couple of months ago. While darkness reigns

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

"We have been living in darkness for over ten days now; there is no way to raise this issue

— Gaurav Ritis, trader, Commercial Street

Not your circus, not your monkeys

Activists say number of macaques held captive in city on rise; forest official rubbishes claim

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

According to animal activists, there is a slight increase in the number of bonnet macaques being held captive in homes; forest officials, however, said that the number of cases is not alarming and these are just isolated instances.

Recently, Bengaluru-based People for Animals (PfA) rescued three macaques held captive inside an ashram in Sondekoppa. Wildlife activists raised concerns about such cases making a comeback after a long time.

PfA received a call for the confiscation of three captive macaques in a span of two days from an ashram in Sondekoppa and from Kengunte, Mallathahalli, in the second week of October. The PfA rescue team (Mohan and Bharath) rushed to the location immediately along with local police; after spreading awareness and convincing the persons who had kept the macaques, the animals were brought to PfA centre and kept in separate cages for observation.

"There has been an increase in cases of people keeping bonnet macaques as pets in their homes. When we rescued the monkeys, they were chained. In both cases, the monkeys were considered as divine

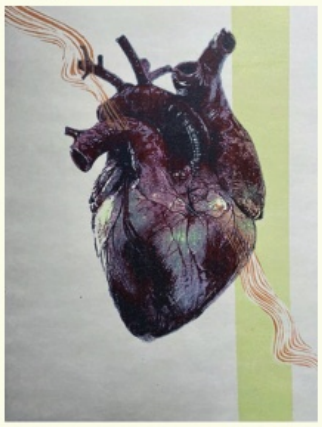
CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Tattoo festival

Indiranagar SOCIAL is hosting Puncturewala Tattoo Festival in collaboration with Homework Studio and the Indian homegrown tattoo community. Inspired by the badass roadside tattoo stalls going strong in our country for decades, the Puncturewala Tattoo Festival gems from the idea of tattooing without standalone studios bringing you artists from around the country putting their flashes up for grabs!
Where: Indiranagar Social
When: October 16, 12 pm – 7 pm

02 White noise



A first-of-its-kind initiative and platform, White Noise by Svasa aims to showcase how art can be displayed and enjoyed in a post-pandemic world, by bringing together various multi disciplinary artists and a discerning audience. White Noise refers to a phenomenon that often helps you calm down and organise your thoughts; with a peaceful after effect - similar to the feeling you get while observing art. **Where: Svasa, Bull Temple Road; When: October 16, 17, 12pm – 7pm**
Info: 9886658018

03 Odisha Utsav

Check out a special three-day Odisha Utsav that is set to begin from Thursday at Ravindra Kalakshetra in Bengaluru and will showcase vibrant astounding art forms of Odisha. The event is being organised in association with Odisha Sangeet Natak Akademi, Odisya Sahitya Akademi, and Odisha Lalita Kala Akademi. It will be graced by eminent personalities from Odisha and guests from Karnataka. **Where: Ravindra Kalakshetra**
When: October 16; Entry: Free

Conduct internal tests for bridge courses: Students

Many unhappy with VTU's policy of conducting compulsory exams to clear bridge courses for lateral entry students

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PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Students say no classes were conducted for the subjects and it's unfair to conduct exams

In early 2022, the Visvesvaraya Technological University had announced two additional examination attempts to clear bridge courses for lateral entry students after many students requested the concession.

Now, students are demanding internal assessments to be conducted for the bridge courses instead of exams.

The students say that no classes were conducted for the subjects and hence, it is unfair that the students are being told to sit for the exams. The eighth-semester mark sheet of many such lateral-entry students has been held back because of the issue.

Punith, one such student, said, "Diploma students who join through lateral entry directly to the second year are required to clear four mandatory subjects. Two of these are mathematics papers. But no classes are conducted in the entire three years of the course in any of the colleges. As there are no classes, no internal assessment is also taken. The professors told us that we can study for the paper with the help of video lectures available online."

Since 2021, the university has been conducting internal assessments for the new batches as per National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 which recommends internal assessments instead of exams for mandatory subjects.

"Why can't VTU treat all of its batches the same? Additional attempts were given to us with the idea that the university wants to promote all the students. But now the degree and mark sheet for the eighth semester is still on. There have been no classes and the students are underprepared and unwilling to sit for the examination now," Punith added.

Another reason why students say that it is unfair to hold back their mark sheets is that the bridge courses are not even part of the 8th semester's curriculum.

> **"We do not make the policy. It has been decided by the government**
> – Dr BE Rangaswamy, VTU Registrar (Evaluation)

"It is technically part of the third and fourth-semester curriculum. We are told that we can complete the papers in three years by ourselves. If we don't clear these papers, we can still get promoted to the next semester. But since these are not part of the last semester, why is our mark sheet being held back? If they cannot give us a degree, at least give us the mark sheet so we can get jobs," he added.

Punith is currently working at Accenture, a job that he got after his diploma. "In my company, they will not ask me for my mathematics score in college as I have a diploma and other skill-based courses. It is unfair that I am being forced to sit for this exam. The examination fee is Rs 2,000 for each subject. It is just a way for the university to make money."

The university, however, says that it is conducting the exams as per the policy and cannot do otherwise.

"We do not make the policy. It has been decided by the government and the students needed to clear this examination to get their mark sheets," said Dr BE Rangaswamy, VTU Registrar (Evaluation).

The examination criteria highlighted by the university dictate that the attempts will be given to those admitted by the Lateral Entry Scheme category until the 2013-14 academic year. Further, it stipulated that students should clear all subjects and complete all requirements of their courses, save the bridge courses.

Men's health: some more conversations please

Thanks to covid, the importance of health and good immunity has been in the spotlight like never before, leading to a lot of conversations around the need for a balanced lifestyle. But while narratives are slowly changing, in our country, men's health is often ignored resulting in low immunity, fatigue and mental stress. The hectic lifestyles coupled with lack of a balanced diet can give rise to nutritional deficiencies.

Recently, Meyer Vitabiotic organised a wellness and health program where experts said that men, regardless of age, require adequate nourishment from a balanced diet.

This symposium highlighted the importance of various nutrients at every stage of life. Karolis Mieliauskas, who has travelled more than 11,000 km on his bike from Panipat to Kanyakumari, said that his profession demands a certain level of physical fitness and mental sharpness. He said that there was a need for daily nutritional needs and urged men to focus on their health requirements.

Panellists spoke on the need for men to talk more on health

Rajesh Tawade (Director of Meyer Vitabiotics) said that the vision of his company was to embark on a journey of "Illness to Wellness".

Panellists added that men in India spend little time asking for advice on their health problems and there is often procrastination when it comes to proactively taking charge of their health and wellness. Nutritional needs differ with gender and age.

Dr Amitha Muralidhar added how internal wellness of mind and body was linked to external beauty. **— BMB**

7,200 eyes in the sky

Surveillance cameras with night-vision and personnel posted in control rooms 24*7 to make sure offenders stand no chance

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Bengaluru will soon get 7,200 surveillance cameras. Home Minister Araga Jnanendra said on Saturday that these cameras will help track down offenders and help cops act fast. The cameras will be installed under the Safe City project. These cameras will be equipped with night vision facilities and personnel will be posted in control rooms to keep an eye 24*7.

Towing to be back

After suspension of towing in the city, the city police had recently hinted that it would restart towing. However, the proposal was vetoed by the Home Minister. But now, Jnanendra said there were plans to re-introduce a 'people friendly' towing facility. "Towing is necessary to bring in discipline on city roads as now in the absence of towing, we are seeing a rise in haphazard parking. We are planning to re-introduce a towing facility in the next three to four months."

Cyber Crime Officer teams

With a spike in cyber crime, Jnanendra said there was a plan to start a cyber police station in each district. Cops with thorough knowledge of cyber crime will be posted here. The Home Minister said there were also plans to start a Scene of Cyber Crime Officer (SOCO) team. As of now, 200 cops are being trained in SOCO.

The State Government is also planning to offer land for a forensic university at any of the universities in Bengaluru Hubballi, Mangaluru or Shivamogga.

Beware of 'online liquor delivery scams'

DCP (Central) R Srinivas Gowda has warned of 'liquor scams' in Bengaluru and warned people not to fall in tricksters' trap.

He said they received a complaint recently about a person having visited a website of a famous liquor store.

"A phone number was given on the site for online delivery of liquor. Later, the complainant received a QR code for payment and he paid Rs 900 for online delivery. However, even two days after paying, when he didn't receive his liquor delivery, he realised that it was a fraud and filed a police complaint. Recently, a woman had lost Rs 15,000 as she too fell for the online liquor delivery fraud."

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Happy Vendors Day

Over 140 senior newspaper vendors across the city were honoured in recognition of their excellent service on Saturday. The day was celebrated as Times Vendors Day to mark the birthday former President of India APJ Abdul Kalam. Vendors who have been serving for decades were felicitated with shawl, Mysore peta and gifts. They cut a cake during the event at Gandhi Bazaar.

Many problems & no solutions

Drains in Owners Court Layout are blocked, allowing dirty water to flow into the locality

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Owners Court Layout is a residential locality situated on either side of the Kasavanahalli Main Road. Residents here are faced with drainage water flowing into the locality very often due to the construction of shops that are blocking roadside drains.

They have made multiple complaints to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) since 2017 regarding an illegal establishment being built on the drain, but no action has been taken. Water is not flowing down the drain with ease, and when it rains, the water flows into the locality.

The Namma Owners Court Association (NOCA) has approximately 900 residential units occupied by 1,900 residents.

A few years ago, there were constructions going on in the margin land, and Owners Court Housing Colony Members Association had submitted objection letters to the ward committee in December 2017 and February, 2018 as the land was earmarked for road widening.

Bangalore Mirror
Shops built on drains while parking lots sink
'Drain diversions' have become a nightmare for some locals in Kasavanahalli

BM previously reported about the woes of Owners Court residents on Sept 23

Residents of the layout have also been complaining about vehicles being parked at the entrance

> **"Here, the drains are made in a 'L' shape as the shops are being constructed. This is hindering flow of rainwater**
>
> –Vishnu Prasad, Kasavanahalli Development Forum

A recent letter submitted by NOCA to the Joint Commissioner, Mahadevapura zone pointed out that there was no action taken even for the Sahaaya tickets. In a short span of time, three commercial buildings with over 80 shops came up, causing inconvenience to residents as buyers parked their vehicles at the entrance of the layout. Children have a tough time getting into or out of school buses.

The Sahaaya ticket was closed without even resolving the complaint. Residents observed that the roadside drain had been blocked for construction of other shops.

Vishnu Prasad, member of Kasavanahalli Development Forum, said, "The drains are made as a single stretch. But here it is made in a 'L' shape as the shops are being constructed. This is hindering flow of rainwater, letting it overflow into the layout."

The letter by NOCA read, "As we have witnessed heavy rainfall in Mahadevapura during August-September, parking spaces of downstream apartments in the layout are getting flooded.

Roadside drain/stormwater drain connectivity has been blocked in the adjacent land for construction of margin land shops."

Residents asked for an audit to be done according to the norms and to fix the drain connectivity issue to enable free flow of water.

Prasan Kumar, Manager of Owners Court Housing Colony Members Association, said, "When it rains, the entire layout becomes a mess with the drainage water flowing into the locality. People can't even walk through the stretch. The drains have been blocked and quick action needs to be taken for the well-being of residents."

Bangalore Mirror tried contacting JC Mahadevapura zone, Venkatachallapati, but he was unavailable for comment.

Unlivable conditions in this locality

Locals staying in this area are having to wade through sewer water

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Residents staying near Munekolala Main Road say that the condition of their area has been deplorable since last week. Sewage has been stagnating in the area, causing inconvenience for them.

Pedestrians are upset because they are forced to walk through the sewer water.

Anand Ashok, a resident of the area, said, "We are facing a lot of problems because of the sewer water that has filled up the entire place. Commuting has become a problem. Moreover, it is also a health hazard because it is dirty water that is coming in contact with everyone."

Anjuma Prakash, another resident, told Bangalore Mirror that the living condition has become very unhygienic as of now with dirty water everywhere. It can cause several problems for everyone staying here, he said, adding that the issue has been persisting for a whole week with no action being taken by authorities to fix the situation.

Ritesh M, also a resident, said, "Every time I go out, I have no option but to wade through the dirty water. It is very unsafe and can cause a lot of infections. It can also attract many disease-causing insects and mosquitoes."

Some of the residents also expressed concern for children living there. Anisha Kashyap, a parent, told BM that there are a number of children in the area. "Even I have my kids here. This kind of situation will cause a lot of harm to them. They will not understand that it is dirty water and play in it. It is not possible for us to supervise them all the time either."

Residents are also upset about the stench that has been emanating from the area. Devansh Singh, another local, said that because of the water being stagnant, a foul stench has been emanating from it. He said that it has become difficult for them to go out of the house and complete even small errands.

Another affected resident, Sutripti Mishra, said, "I have been forced to take work from home because of the water outside. Even the cabs are refusing to come to this place. Rains have only increased the problem for every one of us here."

A Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) official said that they would commence work in the area soon.

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Easily worn out

KR Puram

A newly constructed road in Bamboo Bazaar, KR Market has become damaged within a month and is creating traffic jams.

Road or trail?

Srinagara

This is the state of the road near Srinagara bus stop behind srinagar nursing home for over a year.

Major damage

Ramamurthy Nagar

Major Sandeep Unnikrishnan's statue (bust) at Ramamurthy Nagar junction is in a terrible state with debris lying below it.

THE SUNDAY READ

Tree park project, but without a plan

Environmentalists and activists give thumbs down for state government's initiative to convert Jarakabande Kaval forest to tree park

| Garima Prasher
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

While the Karnataka government has decided to go ahead with the plan of converting 353 acre of Jarakabande Kaval forest land into a tree park, it is being done without a detailed project report in hand, according to a resident who had filed for an RTI.

According to the RTI response from the Horticulture Department received by a him, there is no development plan in place for the proposed conservation of the deemed forest area into 'Atal Bihari Vajpayee Park'.

"I filed the RTI with the Horticulture Department around six months ago asking for the DPR of the proposed tree park at Jarakabande Kaval. I wanted to understand how this proposal will not be detrimental to the forest area and its biodiversity. I have now received a response stating there is no detailed plan conceived so far. Going ahead with a project without a plan only implies they have not thought this through. The intentions are not to enhance green cover or conserve biodiversity," said the resident who had filed the RTI.

He is not the only one opposing the project; while there has been stiff opposition from environmentalists against this project, the state government went ahead and sought permission from the Centre to divert this forest land for non-forestry purposes.

Interestingly, the state environment minister had recently announced that the work on the tree park will begin as soon as the state government receives the nod from the union ministry.

"How can they go ahead and allocate a budget for the project without a development plan in place? Such projects should be done in consultation with the locals. There has been no public consultation and no information available in the public domain about this project," lamented a city-based environment activist.

> **"I have now received a response from the Horticulture Department which stated that there is no detailed plan conceived so far** – the activist

Environmentalists say the government should have first studied the forest and its biodiversity, sketched out a DPR and consulted the public before seeking permission from the Centre.

"They should have surveyed the forest patch and documented its biodiversity, to begin with. Unless we know what is there to protect, how can we propose what we are protecting? A part of the forest area has already been developed into a tree park. The rest of the patch should be left alone," said another eminent environmentalist.

Many have labeled it a political gimmick being played to fool the people. According to Dr TV Ramachandra, Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), while the forest patch is a precious piece of lung space for the city, any unavoidable development in the area should be done in consultation with experts.

"We are losing open lung space in the city and Jarakabande Kaval is certainly a precious green cover under such circumstances. Even if the state government gets permission to convert the forest into a park, care should be taken to not convert it into a concrete jungle with jogging tracks, gyms and play areas. They must enhance the recreational value of the forest naturally. They should do so by consulting the experts," said Dr Ramachandra.

Letter alleges snake cruelty by Sadhguru

A member of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) has written to the Deputy Conservator of Forest, Chikballapur Taluk, regarding illegal trapping, transportation and display of a rat snake in Chikaballapur by Sadhguru.

The member alleged that Sadhguru was in violation of the Wildlife Protection Act (WLPA), 1972.

"The snake was displayed on stage by Sadhguru. However, it is yet to be handed over to the Forest Department," read the letter, a copy of which is with BM. "Immediate action must be taken against Sadhguru to control his mindless destruction of wildlife and nature, else, his followers will continue to do the same," it said. **–BMB**

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Don't take this highway!

Bengaluru-Mysuru highway was waterlogged due to heavy rainfall in Mandya District. The commuters were asked to take a re-route via Bengaluru-Nagamangala-Pandavapura-Srirangapatna Road. Those travelling on Sunday are requested to check the conditions before choosing a route to Mysuru.

Bengaluru-Mysuru Highway all set to be EV friendly soon

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited plans to install fast charging stations on highway

Experts suggest Karnataka should follow Delhi's model in establishing Kerbside chargers

The Bengaluru-Mysuru highway will have electric charging stations soon as Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has decided to install them for electric vehicles on the highway. According to BPCL executive director (retail) PS Ravi, fast-charging facilities will be set up at petrol bunks all along the highway in the near future.

"We have decided to create electric charging corridors along the Bengaluru-Mysuru-Madikeri and Bengaluru-Chennai highways. We are planning to launch 200 charging stations across the country in the next six months and the Bengaluru-Mysuru sector will also be taken up," Ravi said.

Meanwhile, experts suggest the government follow Delhi's model in establishing Kerbside chargers. Kerbside EV charging is a unique initiative wherein EVs can be charged on the roadside using either streetlight posts or dedicated charging posts.

In Delhi, it is planned that the chargers will have a power output of 3.3kW, which may be used by two-wheelers, three-wheelers, goods vehicles and electric autos to get a top-up during the day or get fully charged overnight. In fact, Delhi has taken the lead in the country by planning to install 18,000 charging points by 2025.

> **"We are planning to launch 200 charging stations across the country, Mysuru-Bengaluru sector will also be taken up**
> –PS Ravi, BPCL executive director

With the increasing number of electric two and three-wheelers getting registered in Karnataka, there is a growing demand to improve the charging infrastructure. Many EV owners are often forced to charge their vehicles away from home and at unorganised parking locations.

Experts say that it has become necessary for the government to adopt new and innovative ways of providing 24x7 public access to charging on all major roads. Kerbside and lamp post chargers will enable them to charge at nearby locations.

Is Vande Bharat replacing Shatabdi?

With the Centre deciding to run the first Vande Bharat between Mysuru to Chennai via Bengaluru, there is still no clarity as to whether the train will be an addition to the existing Shatabdi Express or a replacement.

Currently, the Mysuru-Bengaluru Shatabdi is the fastest train on the route which covers the distance between two cities in around two hours. According to Mysuru MP Pratap Simha, the Vande Bharat train is likely to be flagged off in November.

Sources said that the new rakes of Vande Bharat will be ready by month's end. However, commuters are saying that Vande Bharat should be run along with Shatabdi."There are talks that the Vande Bharat may replace either Shatabdi or double-decker trains between Bengaluru and Chennai. However, given the record ridership between the two state capitals, the Vande Bharat train should be operational along with the other trains," said Rajashekar R, a regular commuter.

However, there are still doubts about whether the train can be run at 130 to 160 km/h as the track upgrades are yet to be completed.

–Prakash VL

Chronic Kidney Disease increased by five times

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City doctors are sounding the alarm bell for Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) and say there has been a five-fold increase in such cases.

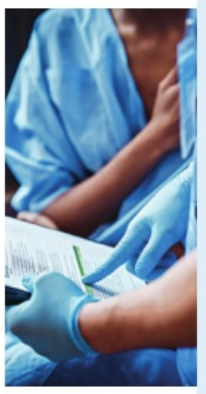
According to Mayo Clinic, Chronic Kidney Disease, also called chronic kidney failure, involves a gradual loss of kidney function. The kidneys filter wastes and excess fluids from one's blood, which are then removed in the urine. Advanced Chronic Kidney Disease can cause dangerous levels of fluid, electrolytes and wastes to build up in the body.

Dr Vidyashankar P, Lead Consultant - Nephrology & Transplant Physician, Aster CMI Hospital pointed out that the Global Burden of Disease collaboration identifies CKD as a major contributor to global morbidity and mortality. "Between 1990 and 2017, the global all-age prevalence and mortality from CKD increased by 29.3 and 41.5 per cent, respectively. In India, there was a 38 per cent increase in the proportion of deaths attributable to kidney failure between 2001–2003 and 2010–2013. Recent data from the International Society of Nephrology's Kidney Disease Data Centre Study reported a prevalence of 17 per cent for CKD in India.

The Indian Chronic Kidney Disease (ICKD) study found that the mean age was around 50 years, more common in males (67 per cent) and patients living in rural areas. About 87 per cent were hypertensive, 37 per cent had diabetes, 22 per cent had CVD, 6.7 per cent had past history of acute kidney injury and 23 per cent reported prior use of alternative drugs. Diabetic kidney disease, chronic interstitial nephritis (CIN) and CKD-cause unknown (CKDu) were the leading causes, said Dr Vidyashankar.

Doctor's Checklist

- Strict control of sugar
- Strict control of blood pressure
- Weight reduction
- Regular exercise
- Periodic health check-up
- Check creatinine in the blood and urine examination
- Drink plenty of fluids
- Quit smoking
- Reduce salt intake
- Avoid long-term use of painkillers



The incidence of youngsters getting infected has become higher due to many lifestyle changes amongst the individuals while lack of awareness and screening of kidneys is a challenge. Dr Rajanna Sreedhara, Senior Consultant Nephrology, Fortis Hospital, said, "Of late, there is a higher rise in incidence among youngsters. Diabetes is the most common cause of CKD, hypertension being a close second cause. Since diabetes and hypertension cases are increasing due to dietary excess, lack of exercise, etc, CKD is also rising."

Dr Vinod Kumar, Consultant - Nephrology & Renal Transplantation, Aster RV Hospital added that it affects more than ten per cent of the general population worldwide. Diabetes and hypertension account for 50 to 60 per cent of Chronic Kidney Disease. Prevalence of obesity has increased in adults and has a direct impact on the development of CKD.

There's something fishy here

With 13 fish kill incidents in 2022 alone, Bengaluru lakes may not be optimal for aquatic life

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Over the last nine months, the number of fish kill incidents in the city lakes have risen substantially. 24 such incidents were reported between 2017 and 2021, but 13 instances have been recorded this year alone. Earlier in the year, Action Aid released a report on the same.

Incidents of fish kill have taken place in various Bengaluru lakes. It started with Horamavu Agara Lake on January 15, followed by one in Kothanur Lake on January 21. In the month of May, four lakes reported fish kills in Mahadevpura, Yelachenahalli, Kuppareddy, and Harlur. In June and July, Bhattarahalli and Tubarahalli lakes reported similar events. Four incidents were reported in Jakkut, Harlur, Panathur, and Kothanur Lake. In September, Sheelavantakere Lake saw another fish kill.

Dead fish floating on the surface of Sheelavantakere Lake; Activists said that many city lakes fall under the 'D' category

BangaloreMirror

Sheelavantakere Lake's second fish kill

Just like last September, this water body is once again a victim of sewage inflow

BM's report on October, 2022 spoke about a second fish kill incident that took place in Sheelavantakere Lake

According to a survey, high instances of fish kill was due to sewage entering lakes in 62 per cent of the cases. This was followed by the release of other chemicals in 15 per cent of the lakes. Over 23 per cent of cases showed unclear reasons.

Raghavendra B Pacchapur from Action Aid Association said, "Sewage entering the lake remains as a big challenge. In five years, we had over 24 fish kill incidents in Bengaluru. But this year the numbers have reached 13, which is alarming. The organic matter in lakes uses up the dissolved oxygen, causing the levels to reduce, resulting in fish kill."

> **"Sewage entering the lake remains a big challenge. In five years we had over 24 fish kill incidents**
>
> – Raghavendra B Pacchapur, Action Aid Association

Activists pointed out that they have approached Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB), and Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) to monitor lakes every month and to bring in alterations that could make the lake habitable for aquatic life. Currently, KSPCB checks on the quality of 106 lakes by testing the water every month. However, Bengaluru has many more lakes which go untested. What is worse is that many of the lakes fall under the class 'D' category, which is fit for fisheries, but once it drops to class 'E', the quality becomes the poorest.

"The authorities should regularly test the water quality and prevent the entry of sewage. The civic body can put up meshes which will not allow any other waste materials to enter. The aim should be to rejuvenate the lake and maintain it at class 'A', but our lakes are far from that, " added Pacchapur.

State fined for improper waste management

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed the Karnataka government to pay Rs 2,900 crore as environmental compensation for improper management of solid and liquid waste. A tribunal headed by chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel said the steps taken by the state of Karnataka for solid waste management and for handling liquid waste were "inadequate."

The NGT bench said that the gap in the generation and scientific handling of solid and liquid waste had resulted in damage to public health. Award of compensation had become necessary under Section 15 of the NGT Act to remedy the continuing damage to the environment and to comply with directions of the Supreme Court, the bench said.

For the gap in treatment in liquid waste or sewage of 1,427.4 million litres daily (MLD), the compensation was Rs 2,856 crore, while for the unremediated legacy waste of 178.50 metric tonnes (MT), the state was liable to pay compensation of Rs 540 crore, the bench said while dete rmining the compensation amount.

"The total compensation comes to Rs 3,396 crore, or say Rs 3,400 crore, and out of the said amount, we deduct the amount of Rs 500 crore levied as compensation vide order dated October 10, 2022," it said. – PTI

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

FLOAT LIKE A BUTTERFLY

This beautiful butterfly was spotted on our terrace garden. Nature always has so many serendipitious moments, if only we take some time to notice it.

The picture was clicked by reader **Sneha Sara**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

A balancing act on Hope Farm Road

Main road filled with loose gravel is every motorist's nightmare

Shreyashi Mukherjee
c-shreyashi.m@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

For the residents and commuters who regularly use two-wheelers to commute at Whitefield's bustling Hope Farm junction, it is a balancing act that they do every day thanks to the loose gravel on the main road.

For the uninitiated, loose gravel can be a rider's nightmare as bikes commonly skid when the road is unpaved, and loose gravel strewn around.

Priyanka Nayak, a commuter, said that she regularly sees bikers struggling to maintain balance on the stretch. It is the main road, and many vehicles use it for commuting. This can cause a lot of accidents.

Rithesh Garg, another commuter, said, "I use this road regularly for going to office. In the morning, everyone is in a hurry to reach their respective workplaces and that is when the road becomes the most dangerous because there are so many vehicles."

For many, the fears of suffering an accident is a constant one. They say that the loose gravel can increase the risk of punctured tires and can lead the vehicles to skid.

Ramandeep K, another commuter, said, "A few days ago, I almost fell from my bike while traveling through this road. I was in a hurry and was going at a bit of a speed. However, because of the gravel, my bike tire could not have a good grip on the ground as a result of which my bike skidded. I used my leg to stop the bike from falling but I suffered an injury on my leg.

The BBMP authorities should take immediate action to ensure that no such accidents happen, and no one gets injured."

Drive and ride on Hope Farm's main road, but at your own risk

The commuters add that during rains, the condition of the road becomes riskier. The gravel also produces a lot of dust when vehicles pass over them.

Santhosh Kumar, working as an automobile engineer, said, "Since it is an unpaved surface, the wheels have a greater tendency to slip, causing the driver to lose control of the vehicle. Moreover, the flying of stones is another risk while going through such roads. That is why it is important for vehicles to maintain adequate distance between each other while they are traveling through such a road."

A BBMP official said that due to the rain, the work had been delayed. However, they would be finishing it soon.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Maha Bodhi Society in Bengaluru was founded as early in 1956 by the Venerable Pujya Acharya Buddharakkhita. The society has established monasteries for monks and nuns, meditation centers, hospitals, old age homes, educational institutions and published over three hundred Dhamma books benefiting thousands of people around the globe. One of the most important occasions for this society is Buddha Poornima, and every year, monks from across the country unite during this time. Monks and devotees celebrate the occasion by acts of service: distributing items to the needy, feeding animals, donating at hospitals, or helping children. Meditation and prayers are also offered on the premises under the bodhi tree.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

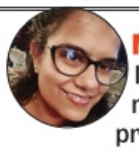
Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

How can authorities help encourage use of green crackers?

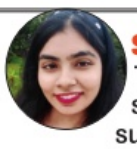
Shruti Nair, BM Reader
I feel that the authorities should ban any kind of crackers that are not eco-friendly and if they find anyone who is selling such crackers, then they should be fined.



Maitri Seth, BM Reader
I feel that the authorities should make the people aware about the problems that is caused by bursting crackers which are not eco-friendly and should tell people about the environmental problems that can occur.

Subhashree Mohapatra, BM Reader
I feel that all crackers are the same and they cause the same kind of problems for the environment. However, authorities should still make sure that the sellers are only selling green crackers and nothing else.

Nikhat Khatun, BM Reader
The authorities should impose strict rules of not bursting crackers which are not green. If they find people bursting such crackers, they should impose a fine.



Srishti Ahuja, BM Reader
The authorities should personally supervise all the shops and make sure that they are not selling normal crackers. They should also tell the people that only green crackers are allowed.

Chetan Singh, BM Reader
Rope in the RWAs, voluntary groups, social workers, BBMP or any grass root authorities to pool in money or create funds to distribute or set up as many stalls locally to sell at affordable prices the green crackers. This will help celebrate the spirit of Deepawali & spread awareness too.

SPEAK TO US

How can we better protect stray animals from fireworks during Deepawali?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

HEALTH TIP: Stashing pre-portioned servings of mixed nuts in your car or having cut-up veggies and hummus ready in your fridge can help you stay on track when a craving strikes

Filling up on vegetables throughout the day can help you maintain a healthy weight and may decrease your risk of developing chronic diseases like heart disease and diabetes

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Sunday, October 16, 2022
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The Mediterranean life

These exotic dishes are a bite out of the ordinary and a must-have for an idyllic meal

CAULIFLOWER TABBOULEH

Prep Time: 20 mins
Cooking Time: 5 mins
Serves 8 (1 Portion=120 gms)

INGREDIENTS
- Cauliflower, grated: 160 gm
- Mint, chopped: 14 gm
- Coriander, chopped: 18 gm
- Dill, chopped: 12 gm
- Oregano, chopped: 6 gm
- Spring-onion, chopped: 20 gm
- Pista, chopped: 30 gm
- Almond, chopped: 30 gm
- Almond dressing: 100 gm
- Salt: 3 gm
- Lemon zest: 10 gm
- Almond dressing
- Almond oil: 130 gm
- Lemon juice: 270 gm
- Extra virgin olive oil: 520 gm
- Honey: 160 gm
- Salt: 8 gm

METHOD
- Grate the cauliflower in a medium-sized bowl. Mix the mint, coriander, dill, oregano, and spring onion with the cauliflower. Mix the chopped almond, pista, salt, and lemon zest into the cauliflower mixture. Pour the almond dressing into the mixture. Serve cold.

LAMB SHANK

Prep Time: 35 mins
Cooking Time: 60mins
Serves 8 (1 Portion=220 gms)

INGREDIENTS
- Lamb shank: 1000 gm
- Ras el hanout (spice mix): 3 tbsp
- Chuma pepper: 22 gm
- Onion, chopped: 200 gm
- Ginger, chopped: 10 gm
- Garlic, chopped: 16 gm
- Salt: 5 gm
- Saffron: 1 gm
- Cinnamon stick: 1
- Honey: 1 tbsp
- Apricot: 50 gm
- Prunes: 50 gm
- Extra virgin olive oil: 20 gm
- Lemon juice: 4 gm
- Chicken stock: 1250 gm
- Pumpkin Cubes: 6
- Marination for lamb tajin
- Olive oil: 32 gm
- Ras el hanout (spice mix): 5 gm
- Lamb: 520 gm

METHOD
- Remove the fat from the lamb shank and clean it properly. Marinate it with ras el hanout (spice mix) and 12 gm of olive oil. Take a pot, heat the 20 gm of olive oil in it. Sear the lamb shank in it on all the side till its lit brown in colour. Remove and keep the shank aside. In the same pot, add 20 gm olive oil and sauté the onion in it. Add the ginger and garlic to it and add cinnamon stick and chuma pepper. Add the lamb shank and chicken stock and let it simmer. On the first boil, add the honey, lemon juice, saffron, apricot, prunes, salt to it. When the lamb is cooked about 85% add the pumpkin to it and let it cook. Reheat the lamb shank with its juice and serve in the tagine bowl. Garnish it with mint and coriander leaves. Serve with rice or sweet potato or mujadara.

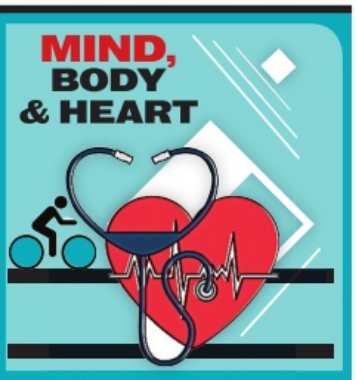
SARDINES

Prep Time: 20 mins
Cooking Time: 10 mins
Serves 8 (1 Portion=120 gms)

INGREDIENTS
- Sardines Fresh de bone: 100 gm
- Oil: 5 gm
- Tomato Salsa: 20 gm
- Lemon wedge for garnish: 1
- Sardine Stuffing
- Walnut, chopped: 22 gm
- Parsley, chopped: 12 gm
- Cilantro, chopped: 14 gm
- Mint, chopped 8 gm
- Salt: 3 gm
- Lemon oil: 10 gm
- Green pepper chopped: 2 gm
- Olive oil: 36 gm
- Lemon zest grated: 4 gm
- Sugar powder: 2 gm

METHOD
- Clean the sardines by removing the small bones on the side. Wash it and keep it for drying. Make a mixture of chopped walnut, parsley, cilantro, mint, green chilli. Mix the salt, lemon oil, lemon zest, and sugar powder. Line the sardines in the pan; sprinkle some salt and place the mixture (25 gm) in it. Close it like a sandwich with one more sardine. Dust the sardines with flour on both the sides. Heat the oil in a pan and shallow-fry the sardines. Sardines should be a little crispy. Place it in the medium size plate in the centre. Place the tomato salsa (30 gm) on it. Garnish it with a coriander sprig and lemon wedge.

By Chef Abhijeet Khot, Sous Chef, Layla, The Den, Bengaluru

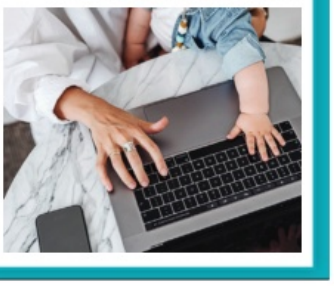


All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I've worked for the same company for six years and I'm very well regarded there. A more senior position has recently come up and my boss has taken me to one side to say he thinks I should go for it.
However, I also want another baby. My daughter is three and my husband and I keep talking about having a second child.
If I get pregnant, I won't be able to commit to this promotion because it will mean longer hours and the odd bit of travel. But if I leave it any longer there will be a big gap between my two children. What do you think I should do?

COLEEN SAYS
This is a really difficult dilemma and I'm not sure anybody can tell you what to do.
You just have to decide what is more important to you – a better job or another baby? Which decision will you regret the most? Will you regret missing out on this promotion? Or will you regret delaying your next baby and having a bigger gap between your kids?
Remember, there's no perfect age gap. Five years between them doesn't matter, but I know some people like to have their kids closer together.
I think you need to sit down and discuss all of this with your husband, but one thing to consider is this isn't the only promotion that will come up. You could have another baby and then go for a promotion further down the line.
If you really want a baby I think you should have one. For me, another baby would take precedence over a job.
—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror



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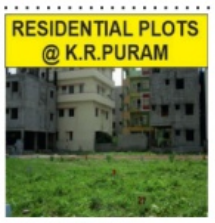
KR PURAM



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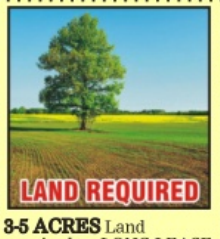

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I Vinith Kumar S/o.Mohan Kumar K, R/o.207, Sree Sainath Heritage, Banjara Layout, Horamavu, B'luru-560043 have changed name to VINITH KUMAR M affidavit Dt.14/10 /2022 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru.

I, V.kesavamurthy S/o Venkataramana Chari R/o No 331,prasanna Layout, herohalli,viswaneedam Post, Bengaluru 560091,ka have changed my name to Keshava Murthy.V for all purposes.

I, Roshani kalandar Beary D/o Khalandar Hassan Beary R/o No-1002 , Near Vijaya Bank Layout, Bilekahalli, BTM 4th stage , B'lore-560076 have changed my name to Roshani Kalandar for all purposes.

I, Madhumita Bhattacharya D/o Krishna Lal Mukherjee R/o #203 , Supreme Residency , 4 Setlur Street , Langford Town, B'lore-560025 have changed my name to Madhumita Mukherjee .

Bengaluru-bound Akasa Air flight diverted after bird hit

#New Delhi

A Bengaluru-bound Akasa Air flight diverted back to Mumbai due to a bird hit. The airline said that the aircraft landed safely at the Mumbai airport.

"Akasa Air flight QP 1103 flying from Mumbai to Bengaluru on October 14 diverted back to Mumbai due to odour in the cabin resulting from a bird hit. The aircraft landed safely in Mumbai and all passengers were deboarded. The aircraft was positioned for a detailed inspection and has now returned to service. Our customer service team assisted the passengers and arrangements were made to accommodate their journeys. We sincerely regret the inconvenience caused," said an Akasa Air spokesperson.

"At Akasa Air, passenger safety and comfort is our highest priority and our crew followed all the protocols as per our operating procedures," he added.

After the completion of two months of operations, Akasa Air revently established Delhi as the sixth destination on its network and inaugurated its first flight on the Delhi-Bengaluru and Delhi-Ahmedabad routes on October 7. The airline also announced 'Pets-on-Board', a pet-friendly service in line with its commitment to create an inclusive travel experience.

Akasa Air has been progressively expanding its network across the country in a phased approach with a commitment towards making travel accessible in India through the introduction of routes in Tier 2 and 3 cities. The company recently received its sixth aircraft and is expected to have a fleet size of 18 aircraft by the end of March 2023. Over the next four years, the airline will add 54 additional aircraft, taking its total fleet size to 72.

Auto aggregators can charge 10% surcharge, says HC

The High Court of Karnataka has directed the State government to fix the fare of app-based autorickshaw aggregators within 15 days. Till then, the court allowed the service providers to also collect 10 per cent additional charge above the fare already fixed by the government. The government last fixed the autorickshaw fares on June 11, 2021.

One of the reasons for the government to ban app-based autorickshaw-hailing service was that they were charging surcharge over and above the fare fixed by the government.

Justice MGS Kamal, in his order issued on Friday, allowed the 10 per cent surcharge along with applicable GST and said this would be a only temporary measure till the new fares are fixed.

The aggregators had sought at least 20 per cent surcharge, but the Transport Department was not willing to allow more than 10 per cent.

Last week, the government banned app-based autorickshaw-hailing services on the grounds that the licence issued under the Karnataka On-Demand Transportation Technology Aggregator Rules was only for cabs and not autorickshaws. The ANI Technologies Private Limited which operates Ola, Roppen Transportation Services Pvt Ltd and Uber India Systems Private Limited challenged the ban before the court.

Last week, the government banned app-based autorickshaw-hailing services

On Thursday, Justice MGS Kamal heard the petitions and suggested that the authorities and the companies arrive at a compromise and make a common submission. The government has agreed to talk to the aggregators.

While the State government argued that autorickshaws are not covered under its rules, the court said the Motor Vehicles Aggregator Guidelines 2020 (MVAG) issued by the Central government covers autorickshaws, e-rickshaw, motorcycles, and buses too. All these vehicles can be used to offer aggregator service, the court said. **PTI**

Monkey around: urban macaques vanishing?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

reincarnations. The macaques are being used to attract donations. In most cases, the claim is these monkeys came in as infants and had to be taken care of. They also stated they were not aware of the laws preventing them from keeping the animals as pets," said PfA chief veterinarian.

As the macaques get better and fit, they will be shifted to a bigger enclosure and provided care to enhance their psychological behaviour. Eventually they will be introduced to other macaques so that they can learn their natural behaviour while in rehabilitation and learn to live in a troop when released into the wild.

Rescuers noted that the monkeys had developed skin disease and were suffering without a proper diet. They also recalled the case of a celebrity keeping a monkey at home, noting that the problem extends to educated people as well.

Animal activists BM spoke to said macaque populations in Bengaluru have gradually vanished.

"I have been a resident of the city for the past 50 years; the numbers have been declining. As per reports, the numbers are going down as compared to 2018 statistics. Keeping bonnet macaques inside homes is a serious offence. Action must be initiated against forest officials for not taking proactive action," said activist Arun Prasad.

However, a senior forest official rubbished the claim about a rise in the number of macaques illegally kept at homes, and attributed it to isolated incidents. "Apart from a few cases, we have not been informed of any cases. Currently, there is no daily or weekly pattern. The numbers are not alarming either; stray incidents do occur. We do conduct awareness drives for the public to discourage the practice of keeping the monkeys captive," he added.

Vanishing act

In another case, animal activist Anand Vedula alleged that forest officials are asking him to sign off on the report stating that some monkeys disappeared on their own. Allegedly, the monkeys that used to haunt Shriram Samruddhi Association, Thubarahalli disappeared one day; the RWA claims to have received permission from the forest department for relocating the monkeys.

Five months ago, four monkeys disappeared, towards the end of May 2022. Residents suspect that some illegal monkey catchers were deployed to relocate the monkeys.

"We still do not know where the monkeys are right now and whether protocol was followed while relocating them. But, they want me to close the case filed against the association and state that the macaques left on their own accord," said Vedula.

Smart City: What's that?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

on Dispensary Road, commuters of Infantry Road are battling a gaping hole on the pavement. Local residents said pedestrians have started avoiding the pavement and taken to the road, which is not safe.

"While there is only one hole on the stretch, it is quite big; chances are that your leg will get caught if it goes unnoticed. The hole seems to be there forever; we now see people walking on the road," said a trader on the stretch.

Smart City road users told BM that they are at their wits' end when it comes to getting issues fixed. They said there is no channel to reach out to and raise these complaints.

"The hole in the pedestrian walkway appeared days ago. However, I am not sure that Smart City officials are even aware of the issue. None of us have raised a complaint. There is no helpline number that the traders on the stretch are aware of. We had initially called the BBMP for help, sometime ago, but they refused," said the trader.

The residents of the area alleged that Smart City officials, in a flurry of activities to achieve the impending deadline, have ignored service and maintenance. This has left the commuters and traders in a fix over whom to contact for the maintenance work.

"We have been living in darkness for over ten days now; there is no way to raise this issue. It is a helpless situation to be in," added Ritis.

When BM reached out to BSCL, officials said that the Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) will soon be up and functioning for Bengalureans to raise issues related to Smart City roads.

"We are looking into Dispensary Road streetlights. The traders have dug out holes on the stretch damaging streetlight cables. However, as far as a dedicated helpline for Smart City Roads is concerned, the citizens will soon have the ICCC at their disposal for any complaints related to these stretches," said Vinayak Sugur, chief engineer, BSCL. While the ambitious project is yet to be flagged off, many are skeptical of its success.

"BSCL must do quality work when they are spending crores of taxpayers' money. Even if the ICCC becomes operational, there should be closure for issues raised by the residents. What is the point of having a channel when no one is interested in addressing our woes? The issues raised by the public should not be seen as a complaint but should be taken as constructive feedback that the authorities need to address," said Susan P, a resident of Millers Road.

Rape charge against top officials
A SIT will probe allegations that a woman in Andaman and Nicobar Islands was lured to the chief secretary's home with promise of a job and then raped by top officials there

BangaloreMirror | 13
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Hunger Index ranking has Centre crying foul

After India was ranked 107 out of 121 countries, Ministry says index has serious methodological issues, is erroneous

#New Delhi

As India ranked 107 out of 121 countries in the Global Hunger Index 2022 with its child wasting rate at 19.3 per cent, being the highest in the world, the Centre has claimed the Index is part of a consistent effort to taint the country's image as "a nation that does not fulfil the food security and nutritional requirements of its population".

The Global Hunger Index (GHI) is a tool for comprehensively measuring and tracking hunger at global, regional, and national levels.

With a score of 29.1, the level of hunger in India has been labelled "serious". In Asia, Afghanistan with a rank of 109 is the only country behind India. Neighbouring countries - Pakistan (99), Bangladesh (84), Nepal (81) and Sri Lanka (64) have all fared better than India.

In 2021, India ranked 101 out of 116 countries while in 2020 the country was placed at 94th position.

South Asia, the region with the world's highest hunger level, has the highest child stunting rate and by far the highest child wasting rate in the world, the report said. "India's child wasting rate, at 19.3 per cent, is the highest of any country in the world and drives up the region's average owing to India's large population," it said. India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan each have child stunting rates between 35 and 38 per cent, with Afghanistan's rate being the highest in the region. In the 2022 Global Hunger Index, India ranks 107th out of the 121 countries with sufficient data to calculate 2022 GHI scores. With a score of 29.1, India has a level of hunger that is serious. At 19.3 per cent, according to the latest data, India has the highest child wasting rate of all countries covered in the GHI. This rate is higher than it was in 1998–1999, when it was 17.1 per cent. Nepal is ranked higher at 81, Bangladesh at 84 and even Pakistan at 99. India is ranked below African countries like Sudan, Congo, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Rwanda.

School students having lunch under the mid-day meal scheme at a Government school near Vijayawada

'Erroneous'

The Centre said the index suffers from serious methodological issues and is "erroneous measure of hunger". The Women and Child Development Ministry, in a statement, said the matter was taken up with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) not to use such estimates based on FIES (Food Insecurity Experience Scale) survey module data in July 2022 as the statistical output of the same will not be based on merit.

"Though an assurance was forthcoming that there will be further engagement on this issue, the publication of the Global Hunger Index report irrespective of such factual considerations is regrettable," the ministry said. The ministry said, "A consistent effort is visible to taint India's image as a nation that does not fulfil the food security and nutritional requirements of its population. Misinformation seems to be the hallmark of the Global Hunger Index." **– PTI**

SC suspends Bombay HC order acquitting Saibaba

#New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Saturday suspended the Bombay High Court order acquitting former Delhi University (DU) professor GN Saibaba and others in a Maoist-links case, saying the merits of the case was not considered while granting them the relief.

The top court rejected Saibaba's request to order his release from jail due to his disability and health conditions and put him under house arrest after the Maharashtra government opposed the prayer, saying nowadays, there is a new tendency of "urban Naxals" to seek house arrest. It, however, allowed Saibaba to move a fresh bail application in the case.

The high court acquitted Saibaba and others in the case on Friday.

An apex court bench of justices M R Shah and Bela M Trivedi, which sat on a non-working day to hear the matter said, "We are of the opinion that this is a fit case to exercise powers under Section 390 CrPC and to suspend the impugned judgment and order passed by the high court."

It said, "We are of the firm opinion that the impugned judgment and order passed by the high court is required to be suspended. For the reasons stated, the impugned judgment and order passed by the high court is ordered to be suspended till further orders."

File photo of former DU professor GN Saibaba

It issued notice to Saibaba and others and sought their replies by December 8 on a plea moved by the Maharashtra government against the high court order and stayed the release of all the accused in the case from jail. It said that the offences for which the accused were convicted by the trial court are very serious and against the sovereignty and integrity of the country and a detailed scrutiny of the judgment is required as the high court did not consider the merits of the case. **– PTI**

IIT student's body found in hostel room

#Kolkata

The partially decomposed body of a third year student of IIT Kharagpur was found in his hostel room after the authorities broke open the bolted door, an official of the premier Institute said on Saturday.

This was the second instance of death of an IIT student in a week. A 20-year old fifth year B Tech student of IIT Guwahati died by suicide and his body was found hanging in his room on October 10.

IIT Kharagpur registrar Tamal Nath told PTI that the putrefying body of Fainaz Ahmed was found after door of his hostel room was forcibly opened on Friday as there was no communication from him for hours. No foul play was suspected as of now, another IIT Kharagpur official said. Fainaz, a third year student of mechanical engineering, was last seen on October 13, his friends said.

He hailed from Assam's Tinsukia district. **– PTI**

Renuka's heroics help India clinch 7th Asia Cup title

#Sylhet [Bangladesh]

Following her side's seventh Asia Cup win, Indian pacer Renuka Singh said that she is happy with her performances after not delivering in the previous few matches and her coach and staff helped her get back her rhythm.

India crushed Sri Lanka by eight wickets in the final match of the Women's Asia Cup 2022, clinching their seventh title.

SPORTS

"Very happy because the last few games I did not bowl well. I practised with my coach and the staff and they really helped me get back my rhythm. I just focused on my basics and got success. My whole team supported me really well and credit should go to my captain, coach and the staff," said Renuka in the post-match presentation.

Renuka got the 'Player of the Match' award for her spell of 3/5.

Electing to bat first, Sri Lanka could only score 65/9 in their 20 overs. Renuka Singh's (3/5) in the powerplay reduced Sri Lanka to 16/5.

Inoka Ranaweera (18*) and Oshadi Ranasinghe (13) were the only players who could touch double digits.

Besides Renuka, spinners Rajeshwari Gayakwad (16/2) and Sneh Rana (13/2) also bowled well for the Women in Blue.

India chased the target of 66 comfortably, scoring 71/2 in 8.3 overs.Smriti Mandhana remained unbeaten at 51 of 25 balls and she hit six fours and three sixes. Harmanpreet Kaur was unbeaten at 11 at the other end.

Inoka Ranaweera (1/17) and Kavisha Dilhari (1/17) were the wicket-takers for Sri Lanka, but they did not have enough runs to defend.

Indian team celebrates after their victory at the Sylhet International Cricket Stadium

'Credit to bowlers'

Meanwhile, skipper Harmanpreet Kaur gave credit to the bowlers for restricting Sri Lanka to a low total in the final and also lauded the fielding effort of the team.

"We should give credit to bowlers and the fielding unit was very good today from ball one. We did not want to give them easy runs as every ball is important, proud of the way we performed today. You gotta read the wicket and place the field accordingly. We did that very well and placed the fielders accordingly and that really helped us. We were not looking at the scoreboard and we were just looking at the short targets we had for ourselves and it all worked out well," Harmanpreet Kaur said in a post-match presentation. **— Agencies**

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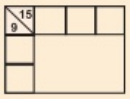
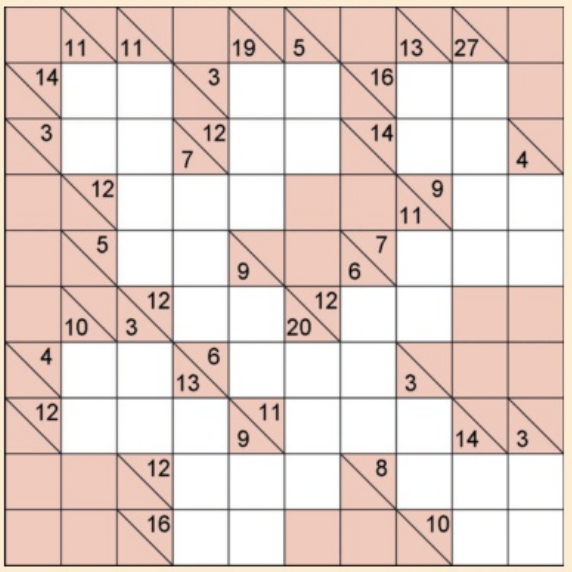
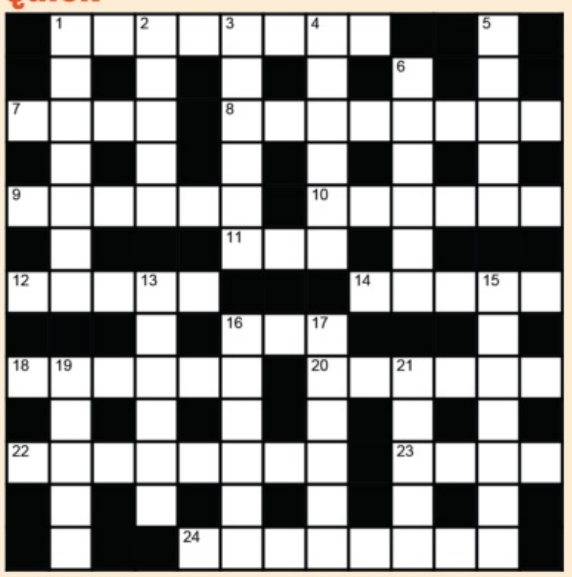


Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Hatch a plot (8)
7 India's ___ capital: Bangalore for sure (4)
8 0950 hrs. or 2150 hrs.? (3,2,3)
9 Fix beforehand (6)
10 Jumble (6)
11 Sugar suffix (3)
12 Not narrow (5)
14 Misgiving (5)
16 State on our north-west border (3)
18 Furnace worker (6)
20 Almost (6)
22 Steal by fraud (8)
23 Location (4)
24 Held in high regard (8)

DOWN

1 Less clouded (7)
2 Laid down standards? (5)
3 An edible tuber (6)
4 Change the title (6)
5 Domestic birds (5)
6 Sorcery from the West Indies? (6)
13 Lower-leg joints (6)
15 Past due (7)
16 Scratches or scrapes (6)
17 Extension to hotel (6)
19 Chennai lingo (5)
21 North eastern state of India (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: P EQUALS G

QEE FYLEB PYVQF FUNLPUFC QYV XNTXVRIVJ WB OQEZRTP.

Linemaro

My mom thinks I'm gay. Can you help me prove her wrong?

Mindchow

Wisdom comes from experience. Experience is often a result of lack of wisdom

Joke of the day

Interviewer: Do you think you can handle a variety of work?
Candidate: Yes I think so, I have worked in 10 different places in the last 3 months.

Loop

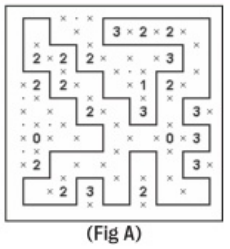
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

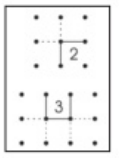
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

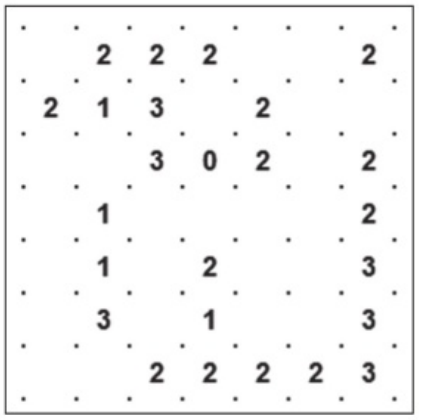
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



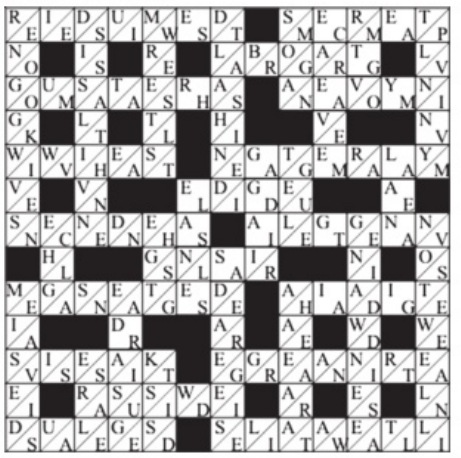
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



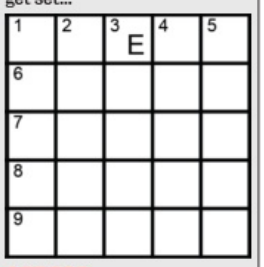
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

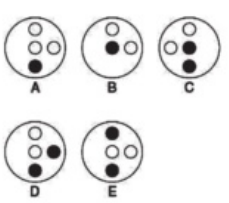
1 Certs; 6 Raita; 7 Rates; 8 Hat we; 9 Slink

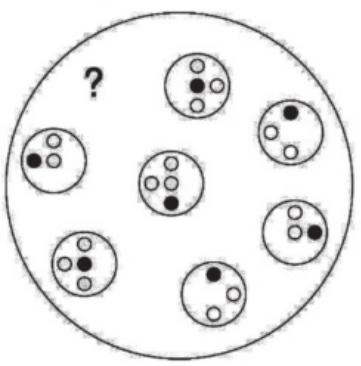
DOWN

1 Raw LC; 2 Irish; 3 An tee; 4 Stake; 5 Start

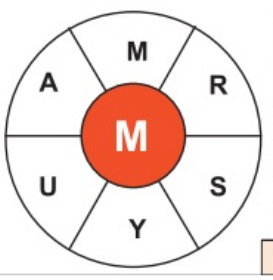
Mensapuzzle

Which circle should replace the question mark?





Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

01 Average; **02** Good; **03** Outstanding

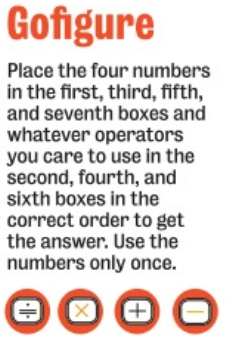
SudokuChallenge

	4	7				3	5	
		5	4		8	6		
	8			7			1	
8								5
	2		8		9		6	
3								4
	3			4			7	
		8	1		5	9		
	6	2				5	4	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Bush is missing. 2. Ladder rung is moved. 3. Bow is moved. 4. Cat's tail is moved. 5. Branch is missing. 6. Moustache is missing.

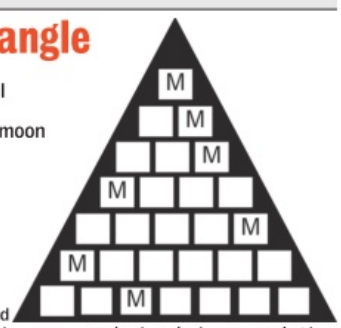
Riddler

When you behead a word, you remove the first letter and still have a valid word. You will be given clues for the two words, longer word first.

1. Morally pure –> Swift action
2. Prize –> Person under protection
3. Head covering –> City related
4. Most plump –> Provide evidence for

Alpha triangle

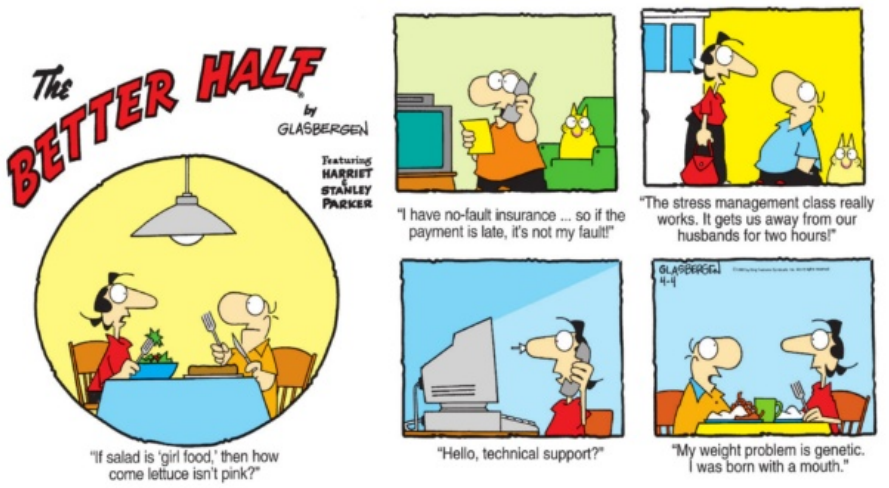
1 Meter, abbr.
2 I think therefore I
3 Male sheep
4 Dark part of the moon
5 Reverie
6 Defaced
7 Fan

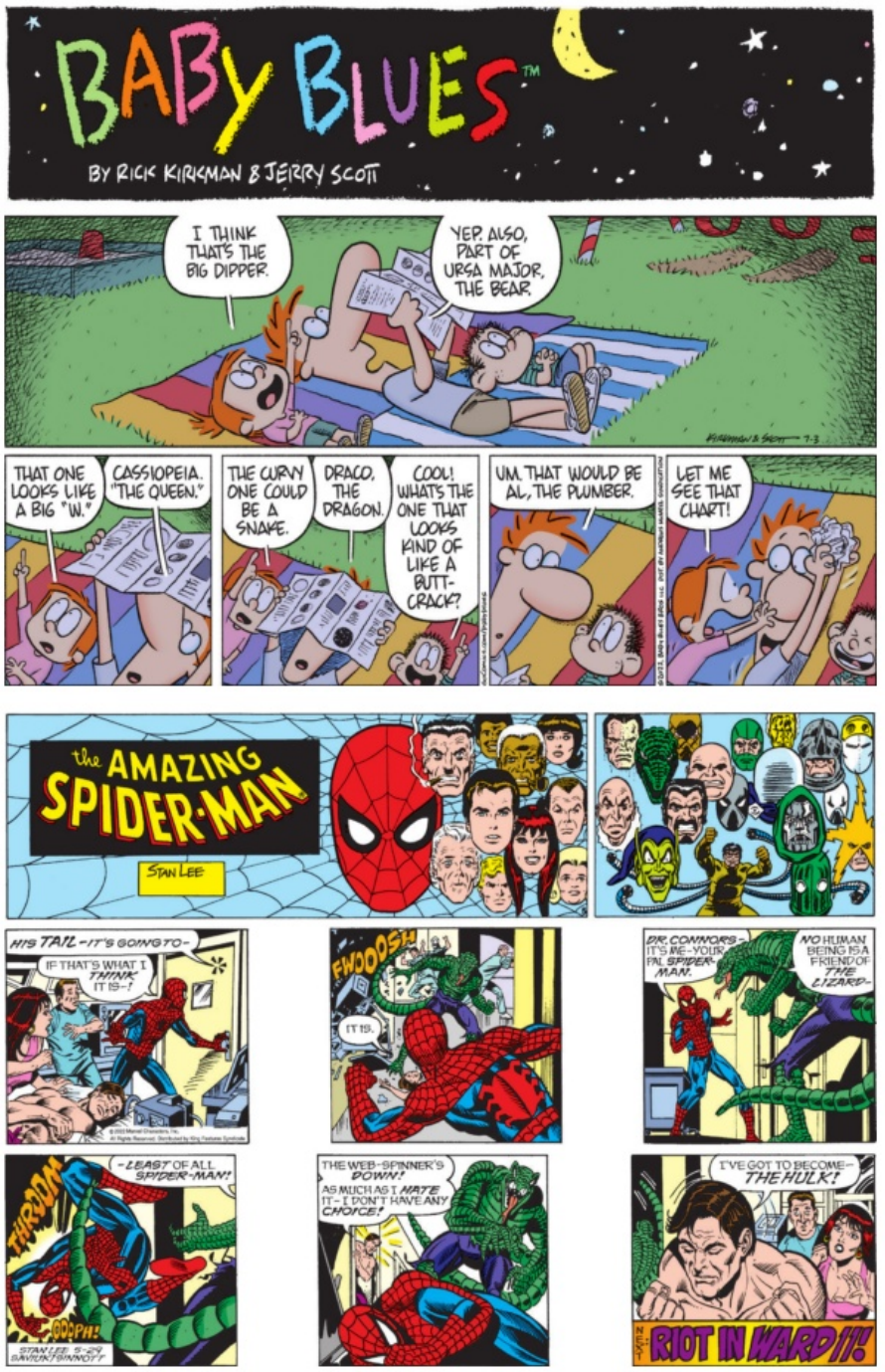


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS


The BETTER HALF
by GLASBERGEN
Featuring HARRIET & STANLEY PARKER
"If salad is 'girl food,' then how come lettuce isn't pink?"
"I have no-fault insurance ... so if the payment is late, it's not my fault!"
"The stress management class really works. It gets us away from our husbands for two hours!"
"Hello, technical support?"
"My weight problem is genetic. I was born with a mouth."


BABY BLUES™
BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT
I THINK THAT'S THE BIG DIPPER.
YEP. ALSO, PART OF URSA MAJOR, THE BEAR.
THAT ONE LOOKS LIKE A BIG "W."
CASSIOPEIA. "THE QUEEN."
THE CURVY ONE COULD BE A SNAKE.
DRACO. THE DRAGON.
COOL! WHAT'S THE ONE THAT LOOKS KIND OF LIKE A BUTT-CRACK?
UM. THAT WOULD BE AL, THE PLUMBER.
LET ME SEE THAT CHART!

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
STAN LEE
HIS TAIL - IT'S GOING TO -
IF THAT'S WHAT I THINK IT IS -!
FWOOSH
IT IS.
DR. CONNORS - IT'S ME - YOUR PAL SPIDER-MAN.
NO HUMAN BEING IS A FRIEND OF THE LIZARD -
- LEAST OF ALL SPIDER-MAN!
THROOM
THE WEB-SPINNER'S DOWN!
AS MUCH AS I HATE IT - I DON'T HAVE ANY CHOICE!
I'VE GOT TO BECOME - THE HULK!
RIOT IN HARD!!

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today is a good day and your financial health is likely to be good. You may get benefits from your past investments. You may have control over your expenditure on worthless items, which may boost your savings. Lovebirds are advised to be polite in conversation with their partner, otherwise there may be conflicts between them.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you are blessed by the moon. You have good vitality and energy. You may enjoy it at work. You may enjoy romantic moments with your spouse, which will improve family harmony. You are likely to make new plans to start a new project. Your perfectionism may help you design the flow chart. Job aspirants will find a good job. Lovebirds are advised to avoid discussions on worthless topics.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you may be disappointed. You are advised to control your arrogance, otherwise you may face some losses due to your way of speaking with other people. Lovebirds should be careful in their discussions, otherwise their relationship may be affected.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you are blessed by the moon. New sources of income may open up. Your past investments will now start paying off in terms of profits. Your losses will convert to profits, which will boost your financial health. Health issues related to parents may be resolved.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may be very happy. You will be busy at work. Your seniors may be happy and can appreciate your work. You are likely to see some changes in your place, position, or responsibilities at work in terms of promotions. Your opponents and hidden enemies may be under control now. Singles and lovebirds can take important decisions in terms of marriage with the help of relatives or friends.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today messy situations will be under control. You are blessed by the moon. You may re-initiate your postponed tasks. You may get rewarded for your hard work. There are some gains in your business which may boost your finances. You may spend money on artefacts or literature. You may also plan for overseas travel.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you may be busy with family issues. You may explore your extra sources of income in terms of gains. You might take an interest in artefacts, movies, and glamour which may improve your creativity. Lovebirds have a clear view in terms of their relationships. Students may now go ahead towards their aim in terms of their career.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you may not feel well and might have health issues. This may affect your work and domestic life. You may be upset due to your partner's health issues. Your patience may be tested many times. You are advised not to make investments in new business projects, otherwise you may face losses. Students are advised to avoid daydreaming.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you are blessed by the positive moon. You may feel healthy as old health issues may be cured now. Money that was stuck somewhere is likely to be recovered now. You may also apply for a loan for buying some items related to luxury.

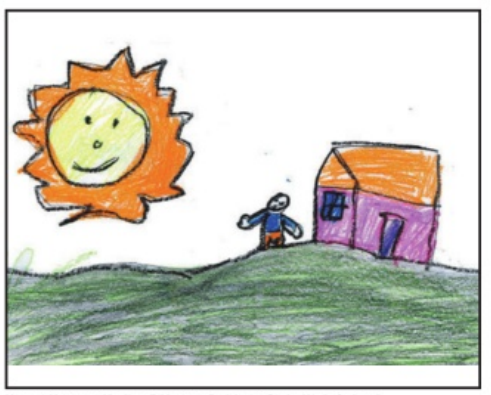
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you may feel very dull. It can make you lazy and careless. You are likely to be unfocused at work. Impatience may pull you down negatively. Health of your family members can make you upset. You are advised to avoid investments in assets. Lovebirds should avoid arguments in terms of family matters.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you may find negative vibrations around you, which can make you unhappy. You are advised to avoid investments on worthless assets. Your friends are not likely to be supportive today. You should not expect much from them in terms of help, otherwise it can make you more upset. You are advised to follow your intuition before making important decisions today.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may be able to implement business plans smoothly with support of your subordinates. You may be involved in some social or family get-together, which will boost your network. You are likely to go for a short business-related trip which may give you benefits in the near future.

KIDZONE

Harini V, 8 Years, National Public School



Niyati Kumari Kedia, 5 Years, Baldwin Girls High School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
(5/½)×3¹
10×3
30

BULL'S EYE
army, rummy, SUMMARY

STRIKE OUT

S	A	L	E	S		S	I	T	W	E	L	L		
I		A	S	I	D	E		R	S		L			
I	V	I	S	I	T		G	R	A	N	I	T	E	
A		R		A		E	W		W					
M	A	N	A	G	E	D		H	A	D	I	T		
	H		G	N	A	R		N		O				
S	C	E	N	E	S		A	E	G	E	A	N		
E	N		E	D	G	E		E						
I	V	I	E	S		E	A	G	E	R	L	Y		
K	T		T	H		V		N						
O	U	S	T	E	R	S		N	A	O	M	I		
R	E	S	U	M	E	D		S	C	R	A	P		

QUICK

														L
														I
E	M	B	E	Z	Z	L	E		S	I	T	E		
	A		L		A		N		S		A			
S	T	O	K	E	R		N	E	A	R	L	Y		
		N		G	O	A						E		
B	R	O	A	D			D	O	U	B	T			
		E			O	S	E							
P	R	E	S	E	T		M	E	D	L	E	Y		
A		M		A		O		S						
B	E	E	R		T	E	N	T	O	T	E	N		
	I		S		E		X		A		E			
C	O	N	S	P	I	R	E				G			

MENSA PUZZLE
A: each pair of circles are mirror images of each other.

RIDDLER
1. Chaste -> Haste,
2. Award -> Ward,
3. Turban -> Urban,
4. Fattest -> Attest

SUDOKU

6	4	7	2	9	1	3	5	8
1	9	5	4	3	8	6	2	7
2	8	3	5	7	6	4	1	9
8	1	6	3	2	4	7	9	5
7	2	4	8	5	9	1	6	3
3	5	9	6	1	7	2	8	4
5	3	1	9	4	2	8	7	6
4	7	8	1	6	5	9	3	2
9	6	2	7	8	3	5	4	1

ALPHA TRIANGLE
M, Am, Ram,
Mare, Dream,
Marred,
Admirer.

LOOP

GO FIGURE
Easy
2 × 5 × 1 + 6 = 16
Medium
9 × 7 / 9 + 2 = 9
Hard
3 + 9 / 2 − 2 = 4

KAKURO

						9	7							9
					9	1	2						5	2
				7	2	3	1	2				9	8	1
			3	1	2	9	1	3			2	1	3	1
		4	1	3	2	1	9	2	3		9	3	2	1
	3	1	2	4	8			3	2	9			1	2
9	5	2	1					1	2	4	1		6	3
2	1	3	4	8				2	1	9			8	6
1	2	4	3					3	5	7	8	6	9	4

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FAST FIVE

C	R	E	S	T
R	I	A	T	A
A	S	T	E	R
W	H	E	A	T
L	I	N	K	S

QUOTE UNCODE
All truly great thoughts are conceived by walking.

Too busy, knot now

Tamannaah reveals her parents want her to get married, but she just has no time

Working across Indian film industries has kept Tamannaah Bhatia on her toes. From starring in south films, playing plum roles in Hindi movies the actress shuttles between various states for work. While she keeps herself focused, and is always on the move, her parents on the other hand hope and wish for something beyond.

Tamannaah says that her parents want to see her happily married and settled. She shares, "The thing is that I work 26 hours a day! Like while I am talking to you, I am getting calls from my mother that are going unanswered as I am busy working. She is just fed up with my busy schedule." She further adds, "Like every Indian household, my parents want me to get married too. But what do I do? I have no time for my personal life." The actress says that she genuinely has no time for her personal life, but that doesn't mean she doesn't long to settle down. She explains, "I do believe in the institution of marriage, and I do want to get married and have kids. But for now, I don't have much of a life. I really enjoy my work a lot. I think it (a film set) is a place where I feel most comfortable. Had I had more energy I would work all the more."

Tamannaah says it is all thanks to her supportive parents that she could focus upon work so much. She concludes saying, "My folks are extremely supportive. I don't think I could have done this without my family. They really get the fact that I am so passionate about my work. I live with them and a cute little puppy. That's my world. I feel very pampered."

— **Onkar Kulkarni, ETimes**

> **I do believe in the institution of marriage, and I do want to get married and have kids. But for now, I don't have much of a life. I enjoy my work a lot**

Whodunnit? Not who you think

3.0 (KANNADA)

3.0 RATING ★★★☆☆

- **DIRECTOR** Indrajith K K
- **ACTORS** Shashikiran, Lohith, Shivaraj, Nishkala Gowda, Vanishree, Sangeetha, and Dixit
- **CERTIFICATION** U/A
- **Duration** 129 minutes

3.0 is yet another interesting suspense thriller released this year. The story begins with few web journalists discussing the fate of three people accused in a murder case outside a court. The police produce the accused persons in the court and a prosecution lawyer is seen appealing to the judge to sentence the accused to life imprisonment. At this juncture, Aruna Chakravarthy (Vanishree), an advocate, volunteers to argue on behalf of the accused. Three accused persons are all confessing to the murder of a girl.

Here the director takes us on throwback -- to narrate the background of Akshara (Nishkala Gowda), a college student, who falls in love with Chinthan (Sashikiran) and how she avoids marrying him. Then comes one more flashback about how Harsha (Lohit), an architect, falls in love with Akshara and how she avoids marrying him too. Finally we are shown how Akshara falls in love with Army Shiva (Shivaraj), a local don and how she manages to dodge his marriage proposal too.

Chintan claims he murdered Akshara by stabbing her with a knife; Harsha says he suffocated her with a pillow and Army Shiva says he shot her with a pistol. However, Aruna proves that these three are not the murderers. So who is it -- that is what the film is about.

Director Indrajith has ensured that the screenplay is crisp. His specialty is narrating the story in the reverse order. Though 3.0 is his maiden movie, Indrajith has handled the megaphone like an experienced director. Prior to this, he has worked as associate for directors H Vasu, Muralimohan and S Umesh.

Shivaraj, Lohit and Shashikiran are okay, but they have to hone their acting skills to establish themselves as actors in Sandalwood. Nishkala Gowda too is only okay. Veteran actress Vanishree steals the show with her dialogue delivery. She is at her best in the court scene.

It is worth a watch for suspense thriller fans.

–Y Maheswara Reddy

Special appearance

Jacqueline Fernandez has been keeping a low profile ever since her name cropped up in the controversial 200 crore money laundering case involving Sukesh Chandrasekhar. She made a rare public appearance on Friday, sporting a gorgeous mustard sheer saree. Her drape was beautifully accentuated with mirror work.

Last month, Delhi's Patiala House Court granted Jacqueline interim bail on a bail bond of Rs 50,000, in the Rs 200 crore money laundering case. In a supplementary chargesheet filed by the Enforcement Directorate in this matter, Jacqueline was named as accused. The next hearing of this case will be held on October 22.

ETimes

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